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61856
SECT 01 OF 61856

Sect. 1 of 2

ACTION
DIA:
DISTR
IADB(01) J3(14) J5(02) J3;NMCC SECDEF(07) SECDEF:
ASD:ISA(10) ASD:PA&E(01) :;DIA(20) NMIC
- CMC CC WASHINGTON DC
- CSAF WASHINGTON DC
- CNO WASHINGTON DC
- C6A WASHINGTON DC
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- SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
- NSA WASH DC
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~~NOFORN~~

TRANSIT/0382050/0382309/002:19TOR0382129
DE RUESBAA #0032 0382050
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P 0718202 FEB 79
FM (b)(3):10 USC 424
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC/DN=2D2/DB=3E
INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ/SCJ2=AD
BT
C ~~O N F I D E N T I A L~~/NOFORN SECTION 1 OF 2 (b)(3):10 USC 424

69

SUBJ: THIS IS IR (b)(3):10 USC 424

1. COUNTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)
2. REPORT NUMBER: (b)(3):10 USC 424
3. TITLE: POLITICAL,MILITARY-VIDELA GOVERNMENT STRENGTH-
ENED
4. PROJECT NUMBER: N/A
5. DATE OF INFORMATION: 790202
6. DATE OF REPORT: 790202 Rec'd RDS-3E, 9 Feb 79
7. DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 790202, BUENOS AIRES
8. REFERENCE/ (b)(3):10 USC 424
9. ASSESSMENT: (b)(3):10 USC 424
10. ORIGINATOR: (b)(3):10 USC 424
11. REQUEST EVALUATION: OMIT
12. PREPARING OFFICER: (b)(3):10 USC 424

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BT

#0032

ANNOTES

WM 117

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SUAREZ MASON IS EFFECTIVELY FOR NOW-PLACED OUT FROM A POSI-
TION IN WHICH HE COULD ENDANGER VIOLA.

3. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ ANOTHER MOVE WHICH STRENGTHENED VIOLA'S POSITION AND POINTS OUT TO HIS CLEVERNESS, SOURCE SAID, IS THAT OF NAMING MAJ. GEN SANTIAGO OMAR RIVERO AS PRESIDENT OF THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION TO THE INTER AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD, A POSITION WHICH HAS REMOVED HIM FROM THE ARGENTINE SCENE. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, ONLY REAL PROBLEM REMAINING TO VIOLA IS GEN. LUCIANO MENENDEZ, COMMANDER OF ARMY'S III CORPS, LONG CONSIDERED A HARDLINER WHOSE POSITION FOR MILITARY ACTION AGAINST CHILE AS THE GOA'S SOLUTION TO THE GOA-GOC DISPUTE OVER THE BEAGLE CHANNEL WAS OF GREAT CONCERN TO THE VIDELA/VIOLA TEAM. BUT, SOURCE ADED, MENENDEZ' POWER BASE IS BEING ERODED IN SHREWD POLITICAL PLAY BY VIOLA: THE RECENT RESIGNATION OF THE GOV-
ERNOR OF CORDOBA, SUBMITTED TO PRES. VIDELA ON 790201, IN REALITY WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY VIOLA'S CAREFUL ORCHESTRATION OF POLITICAL PRESSURES TO EASE HIM OUT. THE GOVERNOR, BRIG. GEN. (RE) CARLOS BERNARDO CHASSING, WAS A STRONG ALLY AND FIRM SUPPORTER OF GEN. MENENDEZ. HIS DEMISE FROM THE SCENE CREATES A VACUUM TO GEN. MENDNEZ'A POLITICAL POWER IN THE AREA WHERE HIS HEADQUARTERS ARE LOCATED.

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

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MULT 81774
SECT 02 OF 61856

ACTION
D'A:
DISTR
IADB(01) J3(14) J5(02) J3:NMCC SECDEF(07) SECDEF:
ASD:ISA(10) ASD:PA&E(01) ::DIA(20) NMIC
- CMC CC WASHINGTON DC
- CSAF WASHINGTON DC
- CND WASHINGTON DC
- CSA WASHINGTON DC
- C I A
- SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
- NSA WASH DC
FILE
(055)

TRANSIT/0382110/0390016/003:06TOR0382049
DE RUESBAA #0032 0382110
ZNY ~~CCCCC~~
P 071820Z FEB 79
FM (b)(3):10 USC 424
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC DN=2D2/DB=3E
INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ/SCJ2=AD
BT
C ~~O N F I D E N T I A L/NOFORN~~ SECTION 2 OF 2 (b)(3):10 USC 424

IN ARGAF INVENTORY AS THE WEAPONS SYSTEM TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED AIR DEFENSE COMMAND. SOMRE ROOM FOR CONJECTURE WAS GIVEN BY SOURCE INDICATING NEWLY ACQUIRED MIRAGE V AIRCRAFT MIGHT ALSO BE INCLUDED WITHIN THAT COMMAND FOR EMPLOYMENT AS A CLEAR AIR MASS INTERCEPTOR.

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

B. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~

Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

THIS MSG AMEMBASSY COORDINATED.

PAGE 1 ~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ 00110111

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13. APPROVING AUTHORITY: (b)(3):10 USC 424

14. SOURCE: (b)(3):10 USC 424

15. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: ~~DIRC-NO NOFORN TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO HOST GOVERNMENT~~

16. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ SUMMARY: THIS IR FORWARDS INFORMATION INDICATING ARMY COMMANDER AND MEMBER OF THE JUNTA, GEN. VIOLA, MIGHT BE IN THE PATH OF STRIVING FOR SOLIDARITY WITHIN GOA TOP RANK STRUCTURE THROUGH SHREWD MANIPULATION IN ASSIGNMENTS AND TRANSFERS OF KEY OFFICERS, AS WELL AS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMAND TO DECENTRALIZE POWER.

(b)(3):10 USC 424;Sec. 3.3(b) (1)

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